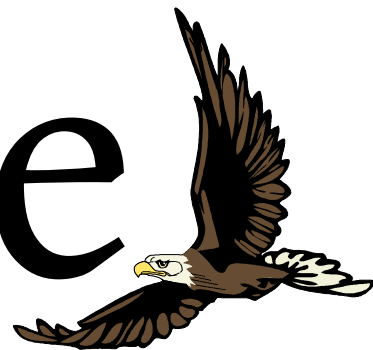


Border Eagle



Vol. 47, No. 26

Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas ... Training the world's best pilots

July 9, 1999

Newsline

A glance at news affecting Laughlin



Pilot awards

The graduation awards for Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 99-11 were as follows:

1st Lt. Anthony B. Carr:

Outstanding Officer;

1st Lt. Jack D. Fischer:

Daedalian Award;

2nd Lt. Kristin Hooker:

Order of Daedalians AETC

Commander's Trophy, Distinguished Graduate, Flying Training Award;

Capt. Melissa J. May:

Order of Daedalians AETC

Commander's Trophy, Distinguished Graduate, Flying Training Award;

Capt. Randall J. Reed:

Academic Training Award;

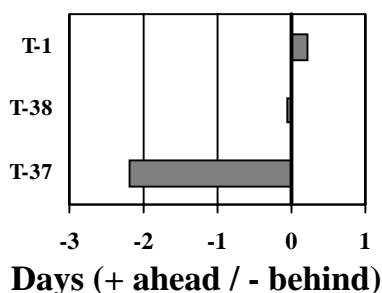
Capt. John L. Thaxton, Jr.:

Academic Training Award.

47 FTW mission status

(As of July 6)

Student Timeline



Sorties flown in FY 99:
50,161

Hours flown in FY 99:
71,578

Pilot wings earned in FY 99:
244

Pilot wings earned since 1963:
11,291

AETC names Laughlin's club, community center number one

Both organizations to represent the command at Air Force-level competition

By Airman Bradley Pettit

Staff writer

Two organizations in the 47th Services Division recently won Air Education and Training Command awards.

Laughlin's collocated club was recognized as the best in its category within AETC. The Fiesta Center was named the command's best community center. Both services were recognized for continuous improvements that significantly in-



Photo by Airman Bradley Pettit

Dee Dee White and Kc Radloff, 47th Services Division, tear up donated sheets at the Fiesta Community Center Wednesday. Their efforts mark the beginning of a project to provide sleeping mat covers for Laughlin's Family Child Care program.

creased customer service and satisfaction.

"The collocated club and community center have their ears to the ground as to what customers want," said Marilyn A. Couch, chief of the 47th Services Division. Through teamwork and cooperation, several of the projects in both the community center and clubs have been a big success, she said.

By creating several different programs, the two services have distinguished themselves from the others in AETC. Collocated club facilities include the Silverwings snack bar in the Operations Training Complex, Club XL, Club Amistad and Pepperoni's Pizzeria. The Kids' Corner program at Club XL allows children to watch television, play and eat while a waiter keeps an eye on them, said Mark R. Maxfield, general manager of the Club XL complex.

The Fiesta Center sponsors a variety of events to include birthdays, weddings, talent shows and flea markets, said Couch. Because of limited recreational events in the surrounding community, the division has tried to compensate by offering more entertainment programs on base, she said.

"We listen to the customers and try to provide them with programs they can enjoy at little or no cost. We also get great support from the leadership," said Kc Radloff, Fiesta Center director. "We also have a good pool of volunteers to alleviate some of the pressure on the staff due to manning constraints," she continued.

"This was not an award given to any single person," said Maxfield. "The entire staff worked very hard to earn this. They are getting AETC recognition for their exemplary efforts and job performance."

The Fiesta Center and the collocated club will now represent AETC in competition at Air Force level. Winners in these categories are expected to be announced during August.

"We've won the first round of competition, now we're gearing up for the finals," said Maxfield. "I would put the staff on base here up against any other in the Air Force."

Air Force features Y2K public home page with up-to-date information

SCOTT AFB, Ill. — The Air Force's Year 2000 Office wants you to visit its public Internet site. The site provides the latest information on Air Force Y2K efforts.

The Y2K web site provides information on the progress of the Air Force's

efforts to get ready for Year 2000 rollover events. It contains articles and updates on a variety of activities, answers to frequently asked questions, general status information, and phone numbers for points of contact.

Air Force officials encourage people to visit this site often for the most up-to-date

information on Air Force Y2K efforts, status, and testing results.

"The bottom line is the Air Force is going to be 100 percent mission ready Jan. 1, 2000," said Brig. Gen. Gary Ambrose, director of the Air Force Y2K Office.

(AFPN)

**t
h
e** **inside
scoop**

Followers and leaders ...

Lt. Col. Kevin Keith, 84th Flying Training Squadron commander, explains how a good follower makes for a good leader.

Page 2

Program change ...

The Innovative Development through Employee Awareness program changes continue to offer benefits.

Page 3

Y2K assistance ...

Standard Systems Group activates a Y2K help desk, a central point for dealing with potential problems.

Page 12

Commander's

Corner



By Lt. Col.
Kevin Keith

84th Flying Training
Squadron commander

Before you can lead, you must learn to follow.

I don't know how many times I've heard that throughout my career, yet I have never had a course in how to be a follower. We spend an incredible amount of time and money teaching leadership, yet we predominantly spend our time as followers.

For every meeting I chaired last week as a commander, I attended three others as a subordinate. For every e-mail I sent giving instructions, I received many more providing me direction, guidance or orders from my superiors or someone acting on their behalf.

Regardless of your grade or aspirations – whether you hope to make general or you're content to stay right where you are – you're going to be a follower.

Qualities of good followers found in good leaders

Given that, each of us should strive to become good at it.

From personal experience as a follower and a leader, from observing the good and the not-so-good, I would propose that successful followers have some traits in common, traits that make them the most valued members of an organization. They are the traits I look for within my squadron, and that I aspire to for myself.

Successful followers know how to manage themselves. The best followers don't require much leadership. They need guidance, they need focus, they need an objective, but from there they take the initiative and accomplish the goal. They recognize the need for correction or assistance and ask. They don't wait for failure to cause supervisors to intervene or make inputs.

Unsuccessful followers become lost in the hierarchy, whining about lack of guidance and subserviently awaiting their next task or assignment.

Successful followers work constantly to improve themselves and look for opportunities to learn. First, they work to become masters of their craft. Whether flying an airplane or processing data, they want to be world class. Being good is its own reward – they take joy in doing their jobs and in teaching others. Second, they recognize that breadth complements depth – they educate themselves, they look for ways to integrate other disciplines into their working lives. Professional

military education, college courses and outside reading are all avenues for self-improvement and growth.

Successful followers commit to something other than themselves. It doesn't matter so much what the commitment is to, whether it be God, an ideal, the flag, the organization or fellow members of the group. Commitment itself provides leaders with the opportunity to supply motivation. Commitment makes group goals possible. Without it, an organization never becomes more than a collection of individuals.

Successful followers are courageous and honest. They think critically and independently; never afraid to speak their minds. When they speak, their expertise breeds credibility. They give credit where it is due. They share success and accept blame. They form their own views and stand up for what they believe is right.

Curiously, you may have noticed that the list of traits for successful followers looks a whole lot like some lists of leadership traits. That's really not much of a surprise. As I said at the beginning, we're all leaders and followers, the same people in different settings.

When you read about leadership or think about how you will behave when you finally get your opportunity to lead, the obvious question becomes, why wait? Become a successful follower for your boss, your contemporaries and subordinates and you're already a leader.

Working relationship between supervisors and airmen important to Air Force future

By Senior Airman
Rheana Pryor

Air Force Materiel Command

"I bet I'm happier than you are today!" a young airman said to me as we were walking down the steps at the military personnel flight.

"Why is that?" I asked.

With a huge smile on his face, he said, "Because today is my last day in this uniform!"

"Well," I said, "If you are happy about that then I'm happy for you, but I assure you that I'm just as happy to be here as you are to be leaving." He looked at me for a moment and

then said, "Oh, you're one of those."

I spent the rest of the afternoon wondering what had happened to give him such a deep disregard for the Air Force. Probably the same things that happen to many airmen who begin running for the door six months before their enlistments are up.

Most airmen will not admit the real reasons why they have "jumped ship" until they are behind closed doors. Many typical reasons are thrown around, such as deterioration of benefits and not enough pay. Take one look at the cars in the dormitory

parking lot and then decide whether or not airmen are getting paid enough to live comfortably.

When the real reasons begin to be told, they are alarming. Not only because of what is said, but because they are the same things over and over. As airmen, we receive a feedback once every six months. When was the last time a supervisor asked for feedback from their airmen?

The one complaint I've heard most is that supervisors tend to humiliate airmen for not knowing something they feel that they should already know.

Consider the all-too-true fact that no one took the time to teach them.

The Air Force teaches us about empowerment, but too often that gets translated as "sink or swim." All airmen ask is for someone to take the time to ensure they have the tools and information needed to do the job.

The hardest part about being an airman is that everyone assumes you know what to do. The Air Force is unique in that, upon joining, you start at ground zero. Something that may be very basic to a member of 15 years may not be to an airman. Often, information never gets

passed because an airman doesn't know to ask.

A lot of airmen say they don't feel they are part of the team. The most common reason is that their ideas and opinions are not taken seriously. Airmen are unbiased judges of things such as procedures and training, and don't have the advantage of doing things out of habit. Airmen can provide a fresh outlook and possibly bring about changes that are needed to keep the Air Force dynamic.

Many supervisors suffer from the "I'm short" separation syndrome. This affects airmen.

See 'Airmen,' page 6

Actionline

Call 298-5351

If your question relates to the general interest of the people of Laughlin, the question and answer may also be printed in the *Border Eagle*. Before you call the Actionline, please try to work the problem out through the normal chain of command or directly with the base agency involved.

Thanks for your cooperation and I look forward to reading some quality ideas and suggestions.

Dan R. Goodrich
Col. Dan R. Goodrich

47th Flying Training Wing commander



AAFES	298-3176
Accounting and Finance	298-5204
Civil Engineer	298-5252
Civilian Personnel	298-5299
Commissary	298-5815
Dormitory manager	298-5213
Hospital	298-6311
Housing	298-5904
Inspector General	298-5638
Legal	298-5172
Military Personnel	298-5073
Public Affairs	298-5988
Security Forces	298-5900
Services	298-5810
Social Actions	298-5400
FWA hotline	298-4170

Border Eagle

Col. Dan R. Goodrich
Commander
1st Lt. Angela O'Connell
Public Affairs officer
Senior Airman Mike Hammond
Editor

Published every Friday, except the first week in January and the last week in December, by the Del Rio News Herald, a private firm in no way connected with the U. S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with the 47th Flying Training Wing, Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas. This commercial enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of the Border Eagle are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or the Department of the Air Force. Photographs herein are official U.S. Air Force photos, unless otherwise indicated. The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense, the Department of the Air Force or Del Rio Publishing Company of the products or services advertised. Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use, or patronage without regard to race, color or religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs Office of the 47th Flying Training Wing.

Deadlines, Advertising

News for the Border Eagle should be submitted to the 47th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 338, Laughlin AFB, TX, Ext. 5262. **Copy deadline is close of business each Thursday the week prior to publication.** Advertising should be submitted to the Del Rio News-Herald, 2205 Bedell, Del Rio, TX, 774-4611. Advertising should be submitted by 4 p.m. each Friday. Submissions can be E-mailed to: michael.hammond@laughlin.af.mil or reginal.woodruff@laughlin.af.mil

***“Excellence –
not our goal, but
our standard.”***

– 47 FTW motto

Safety Stats

As of June 21
(Fiscal Year)

'99 Total '98

On-duty mishaps	2	11
Off-duty mishaps	9	7
Traffic mishaps	1	4
Sports & Rec mishaps	5	3
Fatalities	0	2

Good IDEA!

Program change offers new, improved benefits to members with money-saving suggestions

By Chief Master Sgt. Doug Baskin

47th Flying Training Wing manpower and quality office

The Air Force suggestion program transformed into the Innovative Development through Employee Awareness Program in October 1997. While the program has changed, Laughlin continues to benefit in cost savings and awards presented through the program.

During the last two years, Laughlin IDEAs have saved more than \$1.6 million in tangible savings while paying more than \$33,000 in awards. In April, an idea to improve flightline safety garnered Capt. Eugene McCabe and Master Sgt. Mark Wurzer (both of the 47th Operations Support Squadron) \$5,000 each. Their idea is projected to save Laughlin more than \$196,000.

So, why the change in the program? In 1996, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Ronald Fogleman commissioned a reengineering workshop to completely overhaul the suggestion program. The general's goal was to improve participation, decrease the lengthy evaluation cycle, restructure award amounts, remove delays in presenting awards and make the program user friendly.

He implemented the IDEA program in three phases beginning Oct. 1, 1997. During phase one, the name of the program was officially changed to IDEA and the award system was updated. Phase two, one year later, introduced software to automate the process. Worldwide testing of the IDEA program data system also began. When finished, the system will become totally automated and interface data sharing with finance and personnel sections. There also is an increase in training and publicity during this phase.

Phase three is projected to begin Oct. 1. This phase will mark the formal transition of the program from a manpower and quality-centered program to a unit program with more responsibilities levied on submitters, supervisors and evaluators. Manpower and quality will remain responsible for monitoring, education and training.

IDEA implemented several other changes. An award for tangible benefits is now calculated at 15 percent of the first year's savings – up to a maximum of \$10,000. Awards for intangible benefits now earn a flat payment of \$200. Additional factors can affect the amount and type of award.



Photo by Airman Bradley Pettit

I'm no dummy, pal!

Zachary Lewis, 3, son of Senior Airman Adam and Theresa Lewis, 47th Flying Training Wing, takes a moment to talk with "Vince and Larry," the crash test dummies. The dummies visited the Child Development Center and other locations on base Friday to promote safety over the holiday weekend.

The new program also changed the method of payment. Payments are now made upon approval of the idea, not implementation. This means swifter rewards for suggesters.

With these changes, IDEA managers are convinced suggesters will look for more ways to participate.

Education and training are under way to ensure success of the new program. Early this year, Laughlin commanders and staff agency chiefs received a briefing on the program. Unit points of contact also received initial briefings and some additional training.

The manpower and quality office is currently developing plans to provide unit POCs with computer-based training to access and use IDEA IPDS. Unit POCs will

then train unit suggesters, supervisors and evaluators. All training is expected to be completed by September.

The revised Air Force Instruction 38-401 is also projected for release later this year.

IDEA is a true employee involvement and awareness program and a one-door approach to improvements. The new concept emphasizes a new IDEA generation process that encourages participation and simplifies idea processing.

Until the award process is fully automated, MQ will continue to process and disburse IDEA awards. Throughout the process, MQ will provide assistance and guidance.

For more information on the IDEA program, contact Anita Cox at 5236.

The *XLer*

Hometown: Mud Lake, Idaho.

Family: Wife, Jill; son, Zachary.

Time at Laughlin: One and a half years.

Time in service: Seven years.

Why did you join the Air Force? To further my education. I chose the Air Force specifically because it seemed to have an all-around better atmosphere than that of the other services.

Name one way to improve life at Laughlin: Get the climate control in the medical clinic fixed.

Greatest accomplishment: Convincing my wife to marry me.

Long-term goals: Finally completing my bachelors degree in nursing.

Hobbies: My family and reading.

Favorite food: Steak.

Favorite beverage: Milk.

Bad habit: Bad attitude toward bad drivers.

Motto: Try to love one another.

If you could spend one hour with any person in history, who would it be and why? Joseph Smith, Jr. He was a great man with great faith and great love for all, and he gave his life for his beliefs.



Staff Sgt. Terry Miller
47th Aeromedical Dental Squadron
dental laboratory technician

Chapel Schedule

Catholic

-Daily Mass 12:05 p.m.

-Saturday Mass 5 p.m.

-Sunday Mass 9:30 a.m.

-Confession 4:15 - 4:45 p.m.

Saturday, or by appointment.

-Choir 6 p.m. Thursdays.

-Sunday school 11 a.m.,
religious education building.

fellowship hall.

-Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.,
religious education building.

-Awana, Wednesdays,
chapel from 6 - 7:30 p.m.

(For more information on
AWANA, call Mike or Karen
Silver at 298-3247.)

Protestant

-General worship 11 a.m.

-Bible study video luncheon

11 a.m. Thursday, chapel

Jewish

- Max Stool

219 West Strickland St.

Del Rio, Texas

Phone: 775-4519

For more information on chapel events and services, call 5111.



Border Eagle deadline ...
*is Thursday, the week prior to
date of publication.*

Question of the week
**What's special about
your hometown?**



"Azle, Texas, is great because of the small town atmosphere but it has the accessibility of a big town."

1st Lt. Mike Kirk
47th Flying Training Wing



"Oakridge, Tenn., has tremendous natural beauty and the four seasons. That is exactly why I love where I'm from."

**Senior Airman
John Jennings**
*47th Operations Support
Squadron*



"Labadieville, La., is all country and has great southern hospitality!"

**Staff Sgt.
Donald Williams**
47th Flying Training Wing



"My family, friends and special ones make Del Rio special for me. These are the finer things of my life!"

Mary Shadwick
47th Services Division

‘Airmen,’ from page 2

When supervisors get close to separating from the Air Force, would they become complacent towards their children? Would they forget to look at a child’s report card and tell her she did a great job or scold him if he didn’t measure up? Of course not.

Why do that to our airmen? If supervisors act like they couldn’t care less about the Air Force, airmen assume that they couldn’t care less about them. A supervisor’s negative attitude about the job makes it extremely difficult for airmen.

Supervisors are the most influential part of the Air Force. Their examples are the greatest factors in determining whether an airman gives 100 percent or goes running for the door. Since airmen are the leaders of the future, whether or not the heart and soul of the Air Force remains strong is up to supervisors.

The airmen you supervise will go on to protect the country you live in long after you are out of the service. Do you feel comfortable with the level of dedication you have given to those who will shape your future as an American?

(U.S. Air Force Online News)

Where are they now?

Name: Maj. Jon "Huggy" Huggins.

Class/Date of graduation from Laughlin:
Class 86-05/May 1986.

Aircraft you now fly and base you are stationed at: U-2 (as an instructor pilot) and T-38 (as an instructor pilot and an evaluator pilot) at Beale Air Force Base, Calif.

Mission of your current aircraft: (The U-2) is the Air Force's only high-altitude, long-duration reconnaissance aircraft.

What do you like most about your current aircraft? It's very difficult to fly (stick and rudder skills), the variety (I get to fly the U-2 and the T-38), and the great people (they are hand picked).

What one thing do you dislike about your current aircraft? We have to have a pilot in a chase car to aid the pilot in landing. That means I spend a lot of time in the chase car instead of the cockpit.



Courtesy photo of T-38



Courtesy photo of U-2

What was the most important thing you learned from your time at Laughlin, besides learning how to fly? How to have a great time in a small town.

What is your most memorable experience from Laughlin? Undergraduate pilot training graduation – the highlight of my life to that point.

What piece of advice would you give SUPT students at Laughlin? Get involved in civilian aviation NOW. Don't wait. Your military aviation can open a bunch of doors, and you need to take advantage now. Become a certified flight instructor, try flying ultralights, get involved in warbirds with Confederate Air Force or a similar organization, etc. It's addicting and you'll love it!

XL Volunteer

What do you do as a volunteer?

I assist newcomers and those leaving Laughlin by answering questions, checking out household items, base brochures and videos on other bases. I also assemble packets of information for use in Laughlin's Family Support Center programs.

How long have you been a volunteer?

I just started volunteering at Laughlin. However, I volunteered at Cannon Air Force Base's Family Support Center for nine months.

Why do you volunteer?

To meet new people, learn more about the Air Force, and to stay busy.

What benefits do you receive from volunteering?

I get to meet new friends, learn new skills, and it just feels good to help others.



Photo by Airman Bradley Pettit

Shaleigh Mish
Laughlin Family Support Center

Y2K assistance: call the Air Force ‘fusion center’

MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, Ala. — Standard Systems Group is activating a Year 2000 help desk — the Air Force central point for collection, consolidation and reporting of problems that may arise, and for resolving automated information systems errors.

A cross-functional team of SSG experts, augmented by com-

puter specialists across the Air Force, is consolidating and networking numerous help desks throughout the service and expects the centralized Y2K ‘fusion center’ to be up and running by Sept. 1.

Col. Robert Glitz, chief of the SSG software factory customer support division, said if the Y2K bug bites help for base teams and

major command operations centers is just a phone call away. The fusion center will use a variety of specialized and secure communications systems including unclassified but sensitive and secret Internet protocol router networks, Secret Telephone Unit III, secure fax and video teleconference. Using modern technology to moni-

tor communications, networks and customer issues throughout the service, the fusion center will use functional experts to identify, report and respond to Y2K problems in the field, leading to faster and more complete fixes.

Trouble calls regarding potential Y2K problems will usually go first to the help desk that nor-

mally provides technical support for that particular system, explained Kenneth Heitkamp, SSG technical director. The existing help desk will be responsible for resolving the Y2K problems and also reporting any anomalies to the fusion center. Trouble calls — even those concerning systems not maintained by SSG — will be directed to the appropriate agency and points of contact for resolution.

“No Department of Defense caller will be turned away,” Glitz said. “We have people working now with all other appropriate agencies so we’ll know exactly who is responsible for what. If a customer has a problem and doesn’t know who the point of contact is, they call the fusion center and get the name and number of the agency that can help.”

Fusion center functional experts will coordinate with agencies such as Air Force Communications Agency, Electronic Systems Center, Aeronautical Systems Center, Tri-Service Medical Systems Support Center and the Air Force Civil Engineering Support Agency to get Y2K status reports and produce Air Force Y2K reports for air staff and the office of the secretary of defense.

Glitz said the fusion center will also make it possible for Air Force Network Operations Center technical support agents and duty operators to identify potential bottlenecks or termination of network services caused by saturated or inoperative communication lines caused by Y2K information system and network flow.

“We believe the rollover date will be transparent on our systems,” said SSG executive director Robert Frye, “Testing, certification and independent validation indicates we’ve done our homework.”

But he said nothing is ever 100 percent.

“There will undoubtedly be some hiccups,” he said. “The fusion center is our way to make sure we have the resources available to respond to the blips that will surely arise.”

Contact the fusion center at DSN 596-5771; toll free (877) 596-5771; or 334-416-5771. For more information on the center, call 1st Lt. Todd Butler at DSN 596-2043 or 334-416-2043.

(AFPN)

TRICARE information available on the Web

Getting TRICARE information is now easier than ever! Visit the Foundation Health Federal Services' web site at www.fhfs.com and you will find important addresses and telephone numbers; answers to frequently asked questions; and applications and forms that you can download and print. You will also find a provider directory to help you locate Prime, Extra, and TRICARE Senior Prime physicians, specialists, hospitals, and network pharmacies in your area.

If you want to add a family

member to your Prime enrollment, you will find a Change Request form at www.fhfs.com. You may also request a new ID card, or disenroll from Prime using the web site. If you are interested in the latest TRICARE news, look up press releases. For the newest Prime Member Handbook, Health Care Information Line brochure, or the TRICARE Being Well newsletter, log on to www.fhfs.com.

When you visit the site, you will find driving directions to your local TRICARE Service Center.

You will also find numbers for claims customer service representatives, Health Care Finders, DEERS, and TRICARE representatives in other states. In addition, www.fhfs.com provides links to government agencies, military associations, TRICARE Lead Agents, the National Mail Order Pharmacy, and other TRICARE-related web sites.

The web site is continuously growing, so log on frequently to make sure you have the latest TRICARE information!

(Courtesy 47th Medical Group)

Air Force raises flying training age limit to 30

WASHINGTON – The Air Force is raising flying training age limits in an effort to increase opportunities for otherwise qualified candidates. This is the first change of this type in 45 years.

The change raises the age limit for applicants for pilot and navigator training from 27 1/2 to 30 years of age and less than five commissioned years of service. This policy is effective with the fiscal 2000 flying training boards which meet Oct. 26-29.

The age limit, which has been 27, plus or minus half a year since 1953, is being lifted to broaden the pool of qualified applicants. Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Michael E. Ryan emphasized the policy change is not because of a shortage of qualified applicants.

In a time when all of the armed forces are experiencing challenges with recruiting, officials say the Air Force continues to benefit from a large number of extremely qualified applicants who are willing to sign up for 10-year active-duty commitments in exchange for highly coveted Air Force pilot training.

"The age limit is being raised to provide maximum opportunity for otherwise qualified candidates," said Ryan. "It will increase the pool of highly motivated applicants who, for various reasons, started their Air Force careers slightly later in life, and allow the Air Force to pick the best of that group."

"We have incorporated multiple contributing factors to arrive at an age which provides the maximum opportunity for outstanding candidates while ensuring that Air Force medical, safety, rated management, and warfighting standards are met," he said.

This policy will affect Reserve Officer Training Corps, Officer Training School, prior-enlisted, and late-rated candidates — those who serve more than one year as a commissioned officer in a non-rated Air Force specialty.

The Air Force Academy, which requires graduation by 26 years of age, will be unaffected by this policy change.

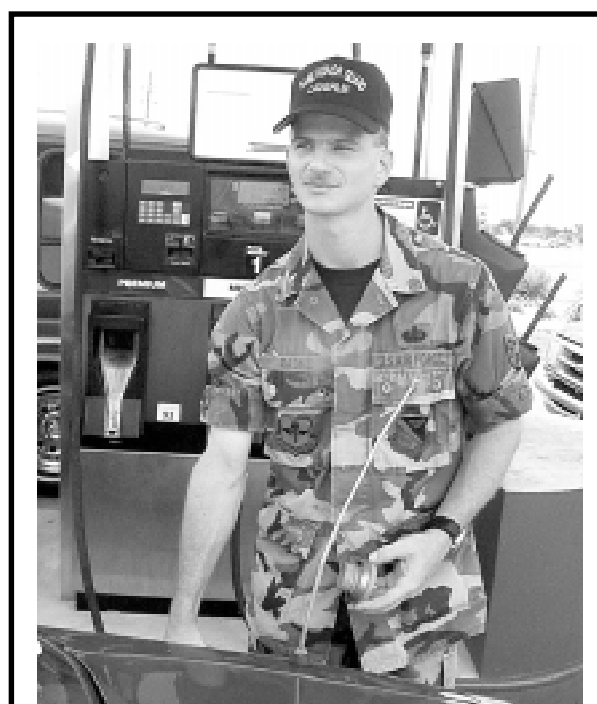


Photo by Airman Bradley Pettit

Fill 'er up!

Staff Sgt. Mike Radke, noncommissioned officer in charge of the Laughlin Honor Guard, pumps gasoline at the base service station July 2 for an honor guard fund-raiser.

"The new age limits allow prior-enlisted and OTS candidates an additional two and one-half years to fulfill requirements and become competitive," said Ryan. "For late-rated personnel, the new age restriction will allow people to complete their initial commitment for their previous training, and still compete for flying training slots."

Lt. Gen. Donald L. Peterson, deputy chief of staff of personnel, added that while there will still be a waiver process for those not meeting the new requirements, commanders will play an increased role in the waiver review process.

"Since there are a large number of qualified applicants who meet the new criteria, commanders will justify why supporting a waiver candidate over the many other qualified candidates who are under 30 years of age and five years of commissioned service is in the best interest of the Air Force," said Peterson.

(AFNS)



Command selection process provides level playing field

Approaching the fifth cycle of the command selection process, the CSP provides an opportunity for colonels and colonel-selects to compete for command positions based on a realistic view of openings. All colonels compete for command opportunities on a "level playing field" and those who aspire to command will receive a realistic assessment of their standing in this competitive process. This year's command screening board will be held at the Air Force Personnel Center at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, beginning Sept. 16.

Colonel and colonel-selects are eligible to compete based on the following criteria:

- For wing commander: Less than 26 years of commissioned service as of Jan. 1, 2000, and pinned on colonel as of Jan. 1, 2000.

- For group commander: Less than 24 years of commissioned service as of Jan. 1, 2000, with no date-of-rank restrictions. For the medical group, less than 26 years of service and a date of separation greater than May 1, 2002.

In addition, the following experience is required:

- Rated command positions: Officers must have flown within the last seven years.

- Functional command positions (space, logistics, communications, intelligence, civil engineering, office of special investigation, etc.). Must have held the duty Air Force specialty code during the last seven years.

- Support command positions: all line AFSCs will be eligible to compete.

- Medical command positions: must be a member of a health professions corps.

Colonel and colonel-selects are ineligible if they:

- Have an approved retirement date.

- Have an open unfavorable information file.

- Are a senior military professor at the Air Force Academy.

- Are assigned to a joint or critical acquisition position less than 24 months as of Oct. 1, 2000. An officer cannot be ineligible for two consecutive boards because they are joint encumbered.

- Are an academic year 1999/2000 National Defense University student and a joint specialty officer who by law must go to a joint job.

- Have already completed same level command test except OSI and health professions officers.

Additionally, the CSB will only consider officers who are volunteers to command at the wing and group levels. Officers who do not wish to be considered by the board may decline consideration, prior to the board convening, without prejudice and still be eligible in accordance with the criteria above for consideration by future boards.

Eligible officers will be notified by their military personnel flight in July.

More information on the CSP or other colonel group matters can be found at <http://www.colonels.hq.af.mil>.

(AFNS)

**Border Eagle deadline is Thursday
the week prior to intended publication date**

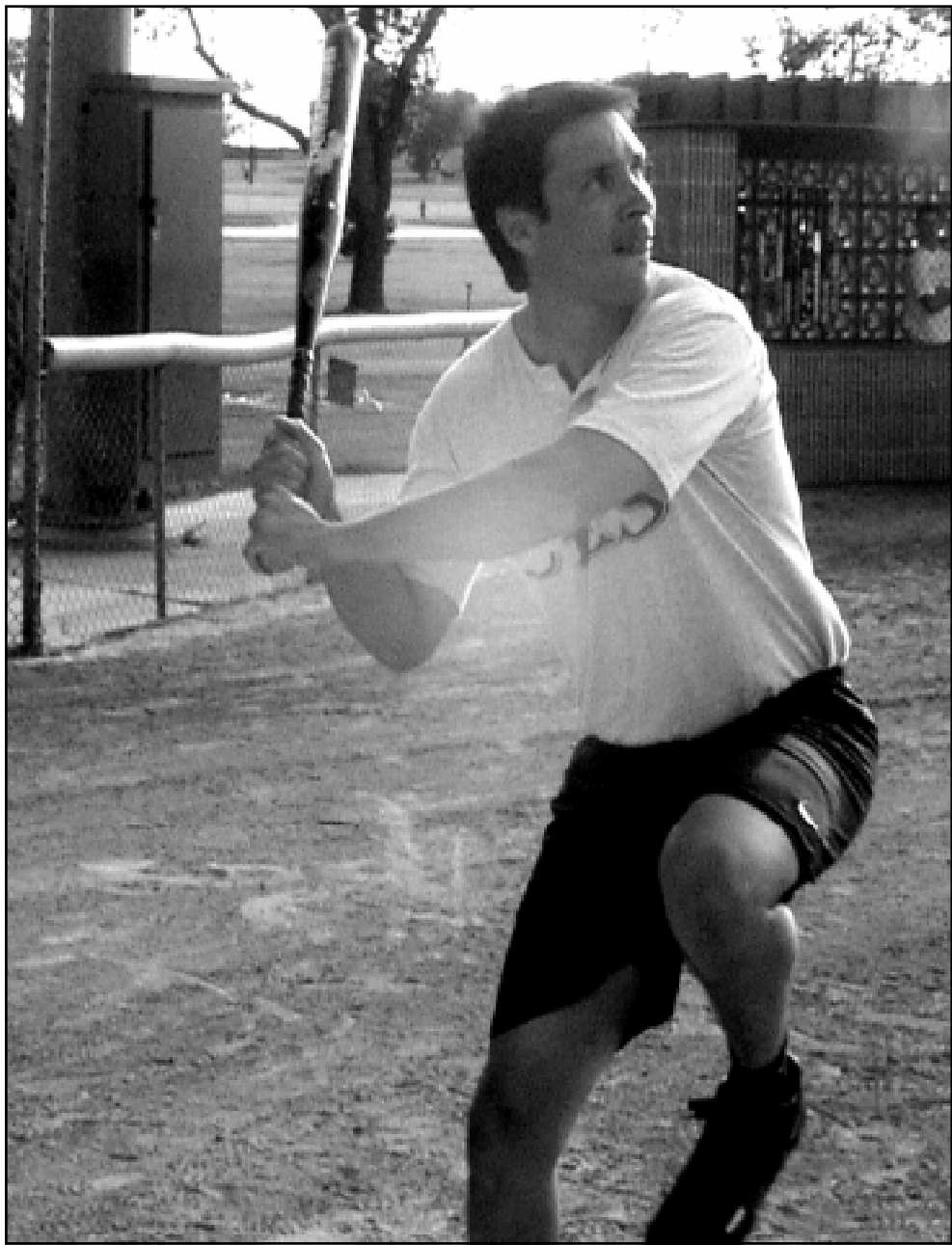


Photo by Airman Bradley Pettit

Kenneth Gonzales, CES, prepares to take a cut at the ball in an intramural softball game held at Babe Ruth field here Wednesday. The swing resulted in a shot up the middle for a single. CES defeated CS/CONS/SVS 8 to 7 in the close game.

CES wins first softball game

CES defeated CS/CONS/SVS in an intramural softball game at Babe Ruth field here Wednesday.

A four-run CS/CONS/SVS rally in the final inning just wasn't enough to overcome the CES lead.

Both teams closely matched scoring production the first three innings. Then, CES upped its run production and led, 8-3, in the sixth.

With five minutes left in the game time limit, CS/CONS/SVS connected with a series of base hits, scoring four runs and narrowing the CES lead to one run. A two out fly ball spoiled the rally and ended the game.

The complete intramural softball standings (as of Thursday) appear below:

Team	W	L
OSS	4	0
86th	3	0
84/85th	1	1
MDG	2	0
LCSAM	1	1
CS/CONS/SVS	0	2
MSS	0	2
87th	0	2
LSI	0	2
CES	1	2

Intramural softball schedule

(As of Thursday)

Monday

7 p.m. 8 vs 2
8 p.m. 9 vs 10
9 p.m. 5 vs 6

Tuesday

1 vs 10
2 vs 9
3 vs 8

July 14

4 vs 7
10 vs 2
9 vs 3

July 19

7 p.m. 6 vs 1
8 p.m. 7 vs 5
9 p.m. 8 vs 4

July 20

4 vs 9
2 vs 1
3 vs 10

July 21

6 vs 7
5 vs 8
2 vs 3

July 26

7 p.m. 9 vs 5
8 p.m. 8 vs 6
9 p.m. 3 vs 1

July 27

1 vs 7
10 vs 4
2 vs 5

July 28

7 vs 8
4 vs 2
10 vs 6

Teams: 1. CES 2. 87th 3. 84/85th 4. LCSAM 5. CS/CONS/SVS
6. MDG 7. OSS 8. 86th 9. MSS 10. LSI



Photo by Airman Bradley Pettit

Fine tuned

Rob Bautista, Lear Siegler, Inc., makes adjustments to a T-38 engine near the flightline here. Bautista won the 47th Support Group's quarterly Top Wheels competition June 25 in the special purpose category. Blair Thomas, also of LSI, won the competition in the general purpose category. The Top Wheels competition judges participants on the cleanliness and appearance of government-owned vehicles in their care.

Air Amistad '99

Organizations interested in setting up a booth for this year's air show, Air Amistad '99, should contact Master Sgt. Linda Clark at 5856, or Capt. Tony Holmes at 5857. Booths are going fast, so interested organizations need to reserve space soon. The air show will be held on Oct. 17, starting at 9 a.m.

Commissary contests

A "Putt for Prizes" in-store competition and a "Swing with the Doughboy" swing dance contest are scheduled at the Laughlin Commissary July 20, starting at 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. respectively. First place couple will win a \$100 shopping spree of Pillsbury products,

and will go on to "swing off" against other couples at the Fort Sam Houston Commissary in San Antonio, July 31, at 11 a.m. Grand prize is a trip for two to Las Vegas (four days and three nights).

Red Cross courses

The Red Cross is offering a course Saturday to Laughlin military members interested in learning how to help children or adults in a medical emergency. This is an all-in-one, nine-hour course that also meets childcare licensing requirements and will provide graduates a certification card in CPR and First Aid. Cost of the course is \$30. Call the American Red Cross to sign up at 775-8628.

The Red Cross is also offering a lifeguarding course in mid-July. If interested, call 775-8626.

Awards luncheon

The 47th Flying Training Wing quarterly awards luncheon will be held July 26 at Club XL's Officers Annex. All nominees and squadron commanders should RSVP by calling ext. 4714. All others should see their first sergeant to sign pro-rata sheets. The last day to purchase tickets is July 20.

Free tuition

Air Force members separating from active duty in aircraft maintenance career fields who join the Massachusetts Air National Guard, are eligible for 100 percent free college tuition at any Massachusetts state college or university. Members may also qualify for the additional college benefits (student loan repayment program or Air National Guard Kicker). Massachusetts Guard is looking to fill the following AFSC vacancies: 2W151, 2A656, 2A353J, 2A651A, 2A653, 2A654, 2A751, 2A753, 2A754, and other non-flightline related career fields.

If you are interested in a Palace Chase/Front assignment, call the recruiting office at DSN: 636-9567, toll free at: 1-800-AIR-9151; E-mail:

Recruiting@mabaf.ang.af.mil. If you have any questions, call Master Sgt. Todd Rup at DSN 636-9568.

Emergency services number

Laughlin military members and their families residing in same household, needing emergency communication services call: 1-800-272-7337, to contact the Red Cross Armed Forces Emergency Service Center. Service is available 24 hours per day.

Education notes

Registration for Park College's fall term is Monday through July 30. Embry Riddle Aeronautical University registration for the fall term is August 2-6.

The next Base Education Planning and Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. in the 47th Support Group conference room. Although BEPAC is composed of designated voting members, visitors are also welcome to attend. The purpose of BEPAC is to support and improve the on-base voluntary education program. School representatives and organizational representatives will also be in attendance.

For more information or for any questions, contact Bob Carpenter at 4673.

Relocation

The retiree affairs office has moved. Come see Col. (Ret.) Ernest Worley at his new location next to the Red Cross office in the lobby foyer of the 47th Mission Support Squadron, Bldg. 246. Office hours are 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesdays and Fridays. If you can't come by in person, call Worley at 298-4762 or send correspondence to the following address:

47 FTW/CCR
Attn: Col. Worley
426 Liberty Drive
Laughlin AFB, TX 78843